(c) The Seminar favoured the strengthening of urban local bodies through constitutional recognition, regular elections, assignment of specific functions and duties, strengthing the base of the Urban Local bodies, resource and coordination of rural and urban development and improvement in the service conditions of the Municipal staff. A comprehensive Bill in this regard has been introduced by the Prime Minister in the Lok Sabha on 7-8-1989.

Growth in construction by NBCC

3330. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Building Construction Corporation had registered a growth in construction during 1988-89;

(b) if so, what was the growth achieved and to what extent the growth was more in comparison to 1987-88; and

(c) what were the amount spent during 1988-89 and what steps are being taken to improve the growth of construction during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About Rs. 110.00 crores; showing a growth of 10% (approx.) in comparison to 1987-88.

(c) As per tentative figures, the actual expenditure incurred on construction by the NBCC (excluding depreciation and interest) was of the order of about Rs. 95.25 crores. Upgradation of technology, streamlining & close monitoring of the operations with computers and training of the existing work-force for new technologies are some of the steps taen by the Corporation to further improve its functioning during 1989-90.

Credit for agro-based industries

3331. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the discussions between IDBI and World Bank was held for extending a line of credit for setting up agro-based industries and other allied units;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and whether any final decision has been derived at; and

(c) to what extent Karnataka is likely to be benefited in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c) There have been some preliminary discussions with World Bank staff for a proposed Agro Industrial Project.

National mineral policy

3332. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Mineral Policy is being prepared ;

(b) if so, whether the draft policy prepared was revised in the light of observations made by the States, and Central agencies concerned ;

(c) if so, whether the final National Mineral Policy has been finalised; and

(d) if so, by what time the policy is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) A draft of the National Mineral Policy for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals has been prepared in consultation with the State Governments, U.T. Administrations, concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government, and mining industries and organisations. The draft policy is under the consideration of the Government at present.

Strategy for production of pulses

3333. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a strategy has been evolved for increasing production of pulses in 1989-90;

(b) whether any concrete plan has been chalked out in this regard ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) to what extent the new plan is likely to be helpful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Strategy for increasing production pulses is :—

(i) Introduction of pulse crops in irrigated farming system as additional area under summer pulses in irrigated areas, popularisation of early maturing Arhar varieties under Arhar wheat sequence in northern States and encouraging cultivation of short duration varieties of moong and urd in rice follows;

(ii) Inter-cropping of arhar in soyabean, bajra, cotton, sugarcane groundnut ;

(iii) Increased use of inputs like improved seeds, adoption of plant protection measures use of phosphatic fertilisers and rhizobium culture.

The above strategy is supported by the two programmes.

(i) Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Project ; and

(ii) Central Sector Special Food Grains production Programme providing assistance for plant protection operation in Gram and Arhar against pod borer and expansion of Area under Summer Pulses (Moong/Urd).

(d) It will help in achieving the production target of pulses.

Unauthorised construction of additional rooms in Naraina Vihar

3334. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has recently served notices to those flats owners of DDA in Naraina Vihar, who have constructed unauthorised additional rooms ; if so, the details of the notices served ;

(b) whether any such notice has also been served to the owner of Flat No. I-316, Naraina Vihar, who has constructed additional rooms on the terrace and has extended the balcony violating the norms of the DDA in this regard ;